

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05 CIEP-01

TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 ACDA-05 SAJ-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01

PRS-01 USIA-06 COME-00 TAR-01 ( ISO ) W

----- 080797

R 191152Z NOV 75

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6896

INFO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT, FI, CZ

SUBJECT: CZECH-FINNISH TRADE ARRANGEMENT

1. CZECH GATT REP JUNG HOSTED LUNCHEON NOV 14 FOR US, CANADIANS, FINNS PRIMARILY TO DISCUSS FUTURE GATT HANDLING CZECH-FINNISH "FREE TRADE ARRANGEMENT". JUNG ACKNOWLEDGED THAT CZECH PERFORMANCE AT RECENT INITIAL SESSION OF WORKING PARTY HAD BEEN LESS THAN SATISFACTORY BUT INDICATED THIS PARTLY DUE TO RELATIVE INEXPERIENCE CZECH OFFICIALS IN GATT MATTERS. (ALTHOUGH CZECHOSLOVAKIA IS LONG TIME GATT CP, HE STATED CZECHS HAVE NOT BUILT UP EXPERIENCED STAFF OF GATT EXPERTS AS HAVE HUNGARIANS.) HE INDICATED CZECHS WERE IN FACT PREPARED PARTICIPATE IN GATT EXAMINATION OF ASPECTS THEIR TRADE REGIME RELEVANT TO QUESTION OF ARTICLE XXIV CONSISTENCY OF FINNISH-CZECH ARRANGEMENT AND SUGGESTED THAT NEXT MEETING OF WORKING PARTY COULD BE HELD FEBRUARY OR MARCH. HE WONDERED WHETHER WE CONSIDERED OUTCOME SIMILAR TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THAT OF HUNGARY-FINNISH WORKING PARTY WOULD ALSO BE

POSSIBLE IN CZECH CASE. WE RESPONDED THAT HUNGARIAN EXAMINATION NOT CONCLUDED, AND WENT ON TO SAY WE CONSIDERED GATT EXAMINATION OF FINNISH ARRANGEMENTS WITH HUNGARY, CZECHOSLOVAKIA WERE DIFFERENT EXERCISES AND THAT CONCLUSIONS OF CZECH-FINNISH WORKING PARTY WOULD DEPEND UPON INFORMATION FURNISHED BY PARTICIPANTS AT FORTHCOMING WP MEETING.

2. JUNG EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR "OBJECTIVE" POSITION THAT HAD BEEN TAKEN BY US AND CANADIAN DELEGATIONS AT RECENT WP MEETING. HE CONTRASTED THIS WITH WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS ANTAGONISTIC EC POSITION. HE SAID EC REP KAWAN HAD WARNED THEM IN ADVANCE THAT BECAUSE OF CZECH REFUSAL ENTER INTO TRADE AGREEMENT WITH EC, EC WOULD GIVE CZECHS HARD TIME IN WP. ACCORDINGLY, CZECHS FEEL THAT THEY HAVE NO REAL POSSIBILITY OF SATISFYING EC REQUESTS FOR INFO IN WP.

3. IN BRIEF ASIDE ON CSCE, JUNG SAID THAT CZECHS FEEL THAT IMPLEMENTATION OF HELSINKI DOCUMENTS SHOULD BE HIGH PRIORITY AND THAT THEY THEMSELVES HAVE RECENTLY TAKEN MEASURES TO LIBERALIZE BUSINESS FACILITIES FOR FOREIGN FIRMS IN ACCORD CSCE BASKET II RESULTS.DALE

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